(c) the measures taken/being taken to remove the impediments if any in setting up completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) So far.no contract has been awarded for setting up washeries on "Build-Own-Operator" (BOO) basis. However, Letters of Intent have been issued for setting up of the following washeries :

	Name of Washery	Area	Throughput capacity (mty)
1.	Kalinga	Talcher Coalfields in Orissa	8.0
2.	Ananta-Bharatpur	-do-	5.2
3.	Dipka	Korba Coalfields in Madhya Pradesh	6.0
4.	Sasti	Wardha Valley Coalfields in Madhya Pradesh	1.5

(b) and (c) Conclusion of the agreements for these washeries is at a final stage. There have been delays in finalising the agreement for supply of washed coal because of various factors including the reluctance of the purchasing power houses to accept the washed coal as has been negotiated with the washery operator. Award of contract for washery is held up because of delay in concluding supply agreement with the concerned consumers who have been raising a number of issues from time to time necessitating prolonged discussion at various levels.

For concluding the contract for setting up of the washeries, it is absolutely essential to have a back to back agreement with the purchaser of washed coal.

Customs Notifications

2736. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Customs Notifications which correspond to the charges made in the long term EXIM policy for 1997-2002 have been pending;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the steps taken to issue those notifications and the details of such notifications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) After notification of the new EXIM Policy 1997-2002, a large number of notifications on the Customs and Excise side have been issued in consultation with the Ministry of Commerce. A few of the issues are under examination in consultation with the said Ministry and a decision will be taken shortly.

More Patients Totter into BIFR Hospital

2737. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of BIFR of 6 months ending June 97 has been reviewed as reported in the Economic Times dt. 14.7.97 under the captioned "More patients totter into BIFR hospital";

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the observations reported therein and facts of the industrial sickness and disposal position of such cases by the BIFR;

(c) the details of action taken/proposed in terms of strengthening BIFR, its working with full strength, appointment of additional members to deal with the increasing work load and related reforms; and

(d) the details of "action plan" formulated for restructuring BIFR during 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that during the period from 1.1.1997 to 30.6.1997, 92 references were registered with BIFR under the provisions of sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA). During the same period BIFR has disposed of 103 cases, by sanctioning 26 rehabilitation schemes and recommending 55 cases for winding up. 22 cases were dismissed as non-maintainable under SICA. As on 30.6.1997, 369 cases were pending at various stages of enquiry as against 336 cases pending as on 31.12.1996.

(c) and (d) Government has introduced a Bill in the Parliament named as Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Bill, 1997 to replace the existing SICA.

Fraud of Dena Bank

2738. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT:

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYYA:

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH:

SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has unearthed a 31.50 crore rupees scam in the Union Bank of India and Dene Bank situated in Mumbai, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;